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TALKING POINTS FOR DCI ON LEBANON-ISRAEL

The Lebanese-Israeli-US negotiations are stalemated. Beirut believes -probably correctly -- that Tel Aviv is deliberately dragging them out to
scuttle the Reagan initiative

Israeli political leaders, including Prime Minister Begin, probably

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Israeli political leaders, including Prime Minister Begin, probably have more reason than ever to secure major concessions on security and normalization now that the Sabra-Shatilla massacre report is in. They need to prove the Lebanese invasion was a profitable political gamble for Israel.

-- Some Lebanese fear Israel could unilaterally pull back from the Shuf region to the 45km security line to prompt new Druze-Phalangist fighting, underscore the Beirut government's weakness, and "prove" that Israel must maintain some military presence in Lebanon.

The Lebanese also fear that the Kahane Commission's report will ultimately give Begin an excuse to call new elections which would further delay progress in the negotiations.

-- The polls show Begin would win; although no polls have been taken since the commission's report was made public, spot surveys by Israeli newspapers suggest Begin's popularity has not been undermined.

<u>Within Lebanon, President Amin Jumayyil's credibility is eroding.</u> The always tense relationship with the Lebanese Forces militia -- despite occasional efforts to work together -- is steadily deteriorating.

- -- The militia has blocked any move to let the Army into East Beirut except on terms that allow the Phalange to retain de facto control.
- -- A militia move to remove Amin does not appear imminent but could develop over time if militia leaders come to believe Amin intends to clip their wings significantly.
- -- Some extremist Maronites are again talking about setting up a Christian mini-state, ceding Tripoli and the Bekaa to Syria and allying themselves even more closely to Israel. These extremists are a minority for now but frustrations are building in the Maronite community as Amin increasingly looks like a loser.